

LYNN ITEM (MA)
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How the lawyer met the admiral

LYNN — It was a friendship that began over lunch.

Lynnfield attorney Richard M. Riley happened to be seated next to Vice Admiral Edward A. Burkhalter Jr., the country's highest-ranking military intelligence official, at a parents luncheon about five years ago at Boston College.

It took only a few minutes for them to discover they had mutual friends — Richard Huber, the retired dean of Boston College Law School where Riley is vice president of the board of fellows, and Gen. Paul F. Gorman Jr., the Swampscott native who recently headed the Southern Command.

That conversation sparked a friendship that has grown over the years. This past weekend the Rileys hosted Burkhalter and his wife, Rebecca, at their Lynnfield home and accompanied them to Gloucester to visit relatives of Mrs. Burkhalter.

As director of the Intelligence Community Staff, Burkhalter oversees budget and program areas for the 10 military and civilian agencies that make up the so-called "intelligence community." Included are the Central Intelligence Agency, National Secur-

ity Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, the counterintelligence division of the FBI, and separate intelligence departments for the State Department and other branches of government.

Although the size and scope of the agencies is classified, Burkhalter said the combined budget of the agencies is "several billion dollars."

The admiral reports directly to William Casey, CIA director and also director of Central Intelligence, a new Cabinet-level post. Burkhalter keeps Casey informed of the agencies' programs and budgets and makes frequent appearances before Congressional subcommittees.

A 1951 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Burkhalter entered the submarine service three years later and, in 1960, served as navigator for Seadragon's historic underwater crossing of the North Pole.

He has served as head of the Navy's undersea warfare division, commander of the Naval Intelligence Command, deputy director of Naval Intelligence, and chief of staff of the Defense Intelligence Agency. He has been director of the Intelligence Community Staff since September 1982.

Burkhalter, a former Connecticut resident, resides in Alexandria, Va.